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USSR-POLAND: The Anti-Soviet Issue

After a silence of almost two weeks, the Soviets are beginning to respond publicly to the number of anti-Soviet incidents being reported by the Polish press.

Moscow Radio on Tuesday criticized a local Solidarity official in a town in southern Poland who urged that streets and buildings named after Soviets be given Polish names. It also alleged that he had threatened to resort to violence against local Communists if the changes were not made. Solidarity leader Walesa has stated that the Soviet claim is "fit for the wastebasket."

The Soviet press reported yesterday on a meeting in Warsaw of the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society that declared its readiness to give "a resolute rebuff to anti-Soviet elements" and on a Bulgarian party daily editorial, which stated that "increased manifestations of anti-Sovietism" are a dangerous phenomenon. Moscow continues to remain silent, however, on reported attacks on Soviet soldiers and defacements of memorials to Soviet war dead in Poland. The latest such incident, carried in the Polish press yesterday, was denounced by the Hungarian media.

The Soviet military is becoming increasingly concerned over the anti-Soviet attitude of the Polish populace.